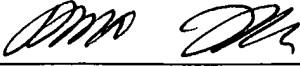
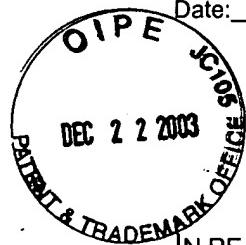


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date: 12/17/03

By: 

Rena Iov



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: FUNAOKA, MASAMITSU

APPLICATION No.: 10/619,930

FILED: JULY 15, 2003

FOR: **NOVEL LIGNIN DERIVATIVES, MOLDED  
PRODUCTS USING THE SAME AND  
PROCESSES FOR MAKING THE SAME**

ART UNIT: 1646

CONF. NO: 6822

**Preliminary Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Listing of the claims begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 3.